## California Weather-Hydro Conditions during September 2008

As of September 30 (the end of Water Year 2008), statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 80 percent of average to date; runoff, 60 percent of average to date; and reservoir storage, 70 percent of average for the date. As of June 10, the date of the last water supply forecast this water year, the projected median April-July runoff for the water supply basins ranged from 78% (Kings River) to 47% (Tule River). Sacramento River unimpaired runoff observed through September 30, 2008 was about 10.2 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 55% of average. (On September 30, 2007, the observed Sacramento River unimpaired runoff through that date was about 10.3 MAF or also about 55% of average.)

On September 30, the Northern Sierra 8-station Index had a seasonal total of 34.9 inches, which is 70% of the seasonal average to date and 70% of an average Water Year (50.0"). For the 8-Station Index, Water Year 2008 is the 15th driest year out of 88 years of record. The Spring of 2008 turned out to be extremely dry: for the 8-Station Index, the Water Year 2008 combined March through June total precipitation was only 3.4 inches, the driest on record (since 1921). The 2-year combined total precipitation for Water Years 2007 (37.2 inches) and 2008 (34.9 inches) is 72.1 inches, the ninth driest 2-year period on record.

January and early February brought significant amounts of precipitation to California, including heavy snowfall in the mountains. California's large water supply reservoirs received some inflow from these storms; however, the amounts were muted because much of the precipitation fell as snow. Very dry hydrologic conditions prevail, because precipitation was significantly below average during Water Year 2007 and the Spring of Water Year 2008. Storage in most of the major water supply reservoirs is significantly below average. The Sacramento and San Joaquin Valley Water Year Type indexes were both classified as "Critical" during Water Year 2008.

| Selected Cities Precipitation Accumulation as of 10/01/2008 (National Weather Service Water Year: July through June) | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| City | Jul 1 to Date 2007 - 2008 (in inches) | % Avg | Jul 1 to Date 2006 - 2007 (in inches) | % Avg | % Avg Jul 1 to Jun 30 2007 - 2008 |
| Eureka | 0.54 | 38 | 1.68 | 117 | 1 |
| Redding | 0.01 | 1 | 1.35 | 171 | 0 |
| Sacramento | 0.00 | 0 | 0.07 | 15 | 0 |
| San Francisco | 0.01 | 3 | 0.16 | 52 | 0 |
| Fresno | 0.01 | 3 | 0.04 | 14 | 0 |
| Bakersfield | 0.00 | 0 | 0.13 | 57 | 0 |
| Los Angeles | 0.00 | 0 | 0.52 | 111 | 0 |
| San Diego | 0.00 | 0 | 0.05 | 15 | 0 |

| Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 10/01/2008 | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reservoir | River | Storage | Avg Storage | % Average | Capacity | % Capacity | Flood Control Encroachment | Total Space Available |
| Trinity Lake | Trinity | 1,132 | 1,696 | 67 | 2,448 | 46 | --- | 1,316 |
| Shasta Lake | Sacramento | 1,382 | 2,807 | 49 | 4,552 | 30 | -3,149 | 3,170 |
| Lake Oroville | Feather | 1,097 | 2,248 | 49 | 3,538 | 31 | -2,241 | 2,441 |
| New Bullards Bar Res | Yuba | 522 | 588 | 89 | 966 | 54 | -385 | 444 |
| Folsom Lake | American | 269 | 556 | 48 | 977 | 28 | -700 | 708 |
| New Melones Res | Stanislaus | 1,098 | 1,330 | 83 | 2,420 | 45 | -1,166 | 1,322 |
| Don Pedro Res | Tuolumne | 1,051 | 1,361 | 77 | 2,030 | 52 | -709 | 979 |
| Lake McClure | Merced | 279 | 463 | 60 | 1,025 | 27 | -568 | 746 |
| Millerton Lake | San Joaquin | 198 | 202 | 98 | 520 | 38 | -317 | 322 |
| Pine Flat Res | Kings | 121 | 347 | 35 | 1,000 | 12 | -879 | 879 |
| Isabella | Kern | 121 | 183 | 66 | 568 | 21 | -178 | 447 |
| San Luis Res | (Offstream) | 234 | 997 | 24 | 2,039 | 11 | --- | 1,805 |

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) long-range weather outlook for October 2008, issued September 30, 2008, forecasts above average precipitation for Northern California, and average precipitation for the rest of the State.